

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Nobuo Kimura et al.

Application No.: 10/553,109

Confirmation No.: 2398

Filed: March 13, 2006

Art Unit: 1762

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING ORGANIC THIN  
FILM

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Examiner: William P. Fletcher III

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed November 28, 2007, the Examiner has required restriction of the claims to one of the following:

- Group I, claims 1-4, 12, 14, 19, 22-29, 49 and 55-67, drawn to a method for producing an organic thin film;
- Group II, claims 35-37, 41 and 42, drawn to a self-assembly film; and
- Group III, claim 44, drawn to a chemically absorbed film.

The Examiner has also required a provisional election of one of the following species to which the claims will be restricted should a generic claim not be held to be allowable:

- (a) the metal-based surfactant of formula (I); and
- (b) the metal-based surfactant of formula (III).

Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-4, 12, 14, 19, 22-29, 49 and 55-67 and provisionally elect species (a) relating to the metal-based surfactant of formula I for continued

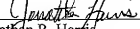
examination, without traverse. The elected species (a) is encompassed by claims 1-4, 12, 14, 19, 25-29 and 55-62p.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining issues that the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

It is believed that no fee is required for this response. However, should any fee be necessary in connection with the filing of this response, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No 04-0100 for any such fees, and Applicants hereby petition for any needed extension of time.

Dated: December 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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